Lifelong Learners Program Application

Minnesota Computers for Schools works collaboratively with schools and educationally focused community organizations to provide technology solutions and skills training to individuals in need.

Program Overview
Lifelong Learners assists those individuals who are in need of a computer at home and are not able to afford the cost of the equipment. The program is designed for students – elementary school to adult learners – who are currently enrolled in a school program as well as adults who need regular access to a computer to aid in job search.

Individuals will be responsible for obtaining their own Internet service provider, as well as software. We do not have adaptive equipment available. (Resource for adaptive equipment: the STAR Program, www.starprogram.mn.us).

Cost
The cost of the equipment will be covered by grant funds when such funds are available. If grant funds are not available, equipment will be provided for a charge of $100 for either a desktop system or a laptop. Printers will be provided depending on availability. A financial check will not be done for the person requesting equipment. Rather we ask the individual to evaluate their true need for assistance in obtaining computer equipment.

Only one computer per household.

Due to the large number of requests and limited grant funds available, we are not able to fill each request for a computer. Consideration is given to each application received based on the individual’s needs.
Available Equipment

**Desktop** – Core 2 Duo processor, 4 GB memory, 120+ GB hard drive, Windows 7 Operating System, 17” LCD, Keyboard and Mouse.

**Laptop** – Core 2 Duo processor, 4 GB memory, 120+ GB hard drive, Windows 7 Operating System, wireless card.

Both the desktop system and the laptop will contain the following software bundle.

MCFS software bundle includes: Open Office, Microsoft Security Essentials, Adobe Reader, Firefox, QuickTime, Live Ink, Hands on Banking, Rapid Typing, and GeoGebra, Malwarebytes, Skype, iTunes, VLC (Video Player), Audacity, GIMP, Inkscape and Google Earth, Runtimes: Flash for both IE and Firefox, Java, Silverlight, Adobe Air and Shockwave.

**Warranty and Technical Assistance:**

The equipment will include a 90-day warranty. A training manual will be provided to you along with the computer or laptop as well as information on how to activate the product key.

When you have problems or questions about your computer or laptop, read the training manual first – many of your questions will be addressed in that document. If the problem still isn’t resolved, contact MCFS for technical support.

If problems occur after the 90 day warranty period ends we will work with you to get the problem resolved. MCFS may need to charge you a nominal amount if equipment components need to be replaced.
**Application Process**

1. **Application:** The individual must fill out the application below. If the equipment is for a minor, the parent/guardian should complete the application. The application must include a description of the need and the anticipated benefit.

2. **Learning Partner/Counselor/Social Worker/Job Coach, etc.** You must have the portion of the application form filled out by someone that you are working with either at school or in your job search. This person must state that you currently do not have a computer in your home and would have difficulty being able to afford a computer. This individual should also include a description of the anticipated benefit from you receiving a computer.

3. **Submit the Forms:** Send the completed application form (both pages) to MCFS by email or fax.
   - Minnesota Computers for Schools
     504 Malcolm Ave SE, Suite 100
     Minneapolis, MN 55414
   - tgillard@mncfs.org

4. **Application Review:** MCFS will review applications. Factors to be considered will include individual’s need, equipment availability and availability of grant funds.

5. **Application Approval:**
   The applicant will be notified as soon as a decision is made. If the equipment is going to be covered by grant funds, the equipment will be built and shipped to the address on the application form. If grant funds are not available, the applicant will be asked to send a check to:

   Minnesota Computers for Schools
   504 Malcolm Ave SE, Suite 100
   Minneapolis, MN 55414
Once an application form has been received and approved, you should have your computer within two to three weeks.

**About Minnesota Computers for Schools**

We are on a mission to close the digital divide in Minnesota.

Minnesota Computers for Schools is a non-profit organization providing technology access and skills training to underserved individuals and helping them gain the skills and confidence they need to succeed in school and begin a successful career in technology.

Learn more: [www.mncfs.org](http://www.mncfs.org)
If you have questions about completing this form, please call us at (612) 383-2400.

### Lifelong Learner Application

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<th>First Name:</th>
<th>Last Name:</th>
<th>Age (if under 18)</th>
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<th>Street Address</th>
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**Daytime Phone Number:**

**Is there a computer/laptop in the home:**

Explain why you need a computer: (Description must include how the computer will assist you in school and/or a job search).

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### Learning Partner/Counselor/Social Worker/Job Coach, etc.

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Relationship to Applicant:

Explain applicant’s needs for a computer:

______________________________Signature

______________________________Date
We do ask the following from the person receiving equipment:

1. Computers/equipment received will be put into use within 90 days of receipt
2. To indemnify and hold Minnesota Computers for Schools, its donors and sponsors harmless from any and all liability with respect to any equipment received at any time
3. With regard to donated equipment that is no longer in working order, recipient is responsible for proper and lawful disposition of any and all items received from Minnesota Computers for Schools.

______________________________
Signature of Applicant or Guardian

______________________________
Printed Name

______________________________
Date